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I trust the order may be modified, and am,

Yours very truly,
(Signed) BERNARD C. STEINER.

January 18, 1915.

Mr. Bernard C. Steiner,
Librarian, The Enoch Pratt Free Library,
Baltimore, Maryland.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 11th instant, protesting against the Department's decision (T. D. 34994), requiring books to be marked to indicate the country of origin, I have to advise you that subsection 1 of paragraph F of Section IV of the tariff act of October 3, 1913, provides that all articles of foreign manufacture or production which are capable of being marked, stamped, branded or labeled in legible English words shall be so marked as to indicate the country of origin.

The Department's decision referred to was made in connection with the ordinary commercial importation of books and as books of this character are capable of being marked without injury, such marking is required by subsection 1 of paragraph F.

However, the marking of rare or antique copies of books may present another question and when an actual importation is made, the Department, upon application, will give the matter careful consideration.

Respectfully,

(Signed) JAMES W. BEVAN,
Acting chief, Division of Customs.

The chairman also brings to the attention of librarians the following matter of general concern:

An amendment to the copyright law recently brought before Congress (H. R. No. 20695) limits the importation of books by libraries, by requiring consent of the American copyright proprietor or his representative, as a condition of the importation. This proposal in the interest of publishers and against the common welfare was fought and defeated by librarians some years ago. It has now reappeared and librarians are urged to take suitable steps with Senators and Representatives to oppose the adoption of any such provision.

NEW A. L. A. PUBLICATIONS

A BOOK OF PRIME IMPORTANCE TO ALL LIBRARIES. NOW IN PRESS

Cataloging for Small Libraries, by Theresa Hitchler. New edition and entirely rewritten matter. Enlarged from 84p. to about 400p. 8° cloth. Special advance price, \$1.00; after publication, \$1.25.

This book will be the clearest, simplest and most comprehensive aid to the untrained cataloger of any tool extant. Especially designed for the small public library and the library of the high school, the normal school and the small college. Helpful also in cataloging special collections and private libraries. Among the important features are the following: General principles of cataloging; accessions record; shelf list record; chapters on author cards, title cards, subject cards, cross-reference cards; cataloging government publications; partial titles, changed titles, pseudonyms; initials, anonymous books; joint authors; periodicals (with reference aids for cataloging them); cyclopedias and dictionaries; almanacs, yearbooks and directories; sacred books and anonymous classics; corporate entry; editors; translators; illustrators; compilers; analytics; series; biography, including genealogy and autobiography; added editions; supplements and continuations; cataloging of clippings, concordances, epitomes, collections of pictures, music; arrangement of cards in catalog; list of surnames with prefixes and suffixes, foreign and anglicized; list of authors with compound names, showing under what form to catalog; same for noblemen, married women, popes, rulers, saints, etc.; list of 150 books with call number, subjects and cross-references assigned; list of 86 well-known pseudonyms arranged under the real name; same list arranged under the pseudonymous name; list of some of the more important books and articles on cataloging, for suggested reading; reference aids for the cataloger; and bibliographical and typographical terms,

with definitions. Profusely illustrated with sample cards illustrating every step described.

A. L. A. Manual of Library Economy. Four new chapters. 10 cents each.

3. The state library, by J. I. Wyer, Jr.

7. The high-school library, by G. O. Ward.

16. Book selection, by Elva L. Bascom.

23. Government documents (state and city), by J. I. Wyer, Jr.

Index to Kindergarten Songs, including singing games and folk songs. By Margery C. Quigley, of the St. Louis Public Library, assisted by other members of the staff. 286p. Cloth, \$1.50 postpaid.

This index, the plan of which is similar to that of the well-known Granger index to recitations, was suggested by demands from St. Louis kindergartners for the location of songs for which they were searching.

Three types of books are indexed—those containing only kindergarten songs, those containing both kindergarten and folk songs, and those including folks songs only.

The collection indexed includes the following classes of books: (1) Books recommended by the Kindergarten Normal Department of the St. Louis Board of Education; (2) Books of songs and games given in the American Library Association Catalog, its Supplement, and the A. L. A. Booklist; (3) All other kindergarten song books in the collection of the St. Louis Public Library.

Sixty-three books are indexed.

Rural school libraries. Report of the committee of the National Education Association. Paper, 10 cents. Contents:

1. Standard foundation library for a rural school. (A short list of 122 titles

helpful to the average country-school teacher.) Prepared by Harriet A. Wood, school librarian, Portland Library Association, and Walter Barnes, State Normal School, Glenville, W. Va.

2. Training of rural teachers in the use of books. By Delia G. Ovitiz, librarian, Milwaukee State Normal School.

3. Community service from the rural-school library. By Elizabeth B. Wales, secretary, Missouri Library Commission, and T. N. Carver, rural specialist, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture.

Books for boys and girls, by Caroline M. Hewins, librarian, Hartford Public Library. 112p. Paper, 20 cents.

This list contains Miss Hewins' own careful selection from the last ten years' crop of children's literature and a reweighing of the older books. Through it all run the author's spice of annotation, the inimitable sparkling quotations gathered here and there, and her original and judicious grouping of the various related subjects.

Graded list of stories for reading aloud. Compiled by Harriot E. Hassler and Carrie E. Scott. New edition, revised. Paper, 10 cents.

There are 15 stories for each grade and some late books have been introduced. Annotations and suggestions as to what parts of book should be read. Special features are list of books for the story-teller and some story hour cycles—Story of the Cid, Heroes of the crusades, Cuchulain, Hebrew tales, The Iliad, The Odyssey, Tales of American Indians, Robin Hood, and Rustem.

Library rooms and buildings, by Charles C. Soule. Paper, 10 cents.

Reprinted by special request from the edition of 1902. These building suggestions are still timely and valuable.